[22nd September 1955

(e) An extract from the report of the Research Health Officer who inspected the jail along with the Medical Officer of the jail, is placed on the table of the House [a].

Payment of compensation to a fisherman in the Fisheries Department at Dharmadam

* 2363 Q.—Sri K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri C. H. Kanaran): Will the Hon the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have paid any compensation to Umalil Usman, a fisherman, working under the Fisheries Department at Dharmadam, Malabar, who met with an accident during May 1954; and

(b) If so, the amount so disbursed?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) & (b) No compensation was given to the employee as the injury received by him was slight and the question of compensation did not arise.

Research section in the Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras

* 2364 Q.—Sri C. KANDASAMY (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have started any research section attached to the Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras; and

(b) if so, its monthly cost?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fire accidents

* 2365 Q.—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a serious fire accident took place in Pullambadi, Tiruchirappalli district, during the first week of April 1955;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused by the fire; and

(c) the relief measures undertaken by the Government?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: (a) Yes.

(b) Two hundred and ninety-seven houses and 52 cattle-sheds were destroyed. Three women died. Eight persons received severe burns. Twenty young goats with three kids and a dozen fowls were burnt alive. Sixty-six hay-ricks, valued at Rs. 8,000 and 50 dung-pits, valued at Rs. 2,000, were also destroyed. The victims lost their clothing, foodgrains which were to last for the whole year and unsold agricultural produce and agricultural implements. The total damage is estimated at Rs. 1,32,683.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 147 infra.